

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

JANUARY 17, 2012

**Maintaining Expertise in Early Education on the First 5 LA Board of Commissioners**

The core mission of the First 5 LA Commission is to increase the number of children ages 0-5 who are physically and emotionally healthy, safe, and ready to learn. Early childhood education is vitally important to the maturation and long term life outcomes of all children ages 0-5. The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) is the largest Head Start grantee in the nation as well as an important partner in the development of a high quality early care education workforce. Under the current structure, LACOE appoints an early childhood education expert to the First 5 LA Commission. The expertise they bring as a voting member places greater emphasis and awareness on the imperative that children be ready to learn and successfully transition into kindergarten. Accordingly, it adds value to the First 5 LA Commission and should be continued.

**- MORE -**

**MOTION**

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**  
**JANUARY 17, 2012**  
**PAGE 2**

The Board of Supervisors must ensure that its First 5 LA Commission appointees adequately address the breadth of expertise needed to accomplish First 5 LA's core mission. A rotation schedule should be implemented to allow the four County agencies (DCFS, LACOE, DPH and DMH), through their respective appointees, to have an equitable opportunity to serve as voting members.

**THEREFORE, I MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** revise recommendation five to direct County Counsel to include the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) as a member of the First 5 LA Commission who annually rotates along with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), Department of Public Health (DPH), and Department of Mental Health (DMH) appointees so that only three voting seats are filled by County agencies at any one time; and implement a rotation schedule as follows:

Year	Voting Members	Ex-Oficio Member
2012	1. DMH 2. DPH 3. LACOE	4. DCFS
2013	2. DPH 3. LACOE 4. DCFS	1. DMH
2014	3. LACOE 4. DCFS 1. DMH	2. DPH
2015	4. DCFS 1. DMH 2. DPH	3. LACOE

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